Beedi Leaf Plants.

128 *MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: Will the Government be pleased to state

(*a*) whether in the State any plantation of beedi leaves has been started till 1-5-1116; and

(*b*) if so, where and to what extent?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA M. K. NILAKANTA AIYAR: Instructions have been issued to start work;

(*b*) 50 acres of land at Puliyara.

MR. KAINIKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: May I know whether the cultivation is done directly by the Government or through any agency?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA M. K. NILAKANTA AIYAR: It is done by the Department.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I know what should be the nature of the land where Beedi leaf plant could be cultivated?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA M. K. NILAKANTA AIYAR: I claim notice.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Narayana Aiyar can give the answer,

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: It can be cultivated very well in places like the Shencottah taluk where the forests are relatively dry.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ എത്രായിരം രൂപക്ക് ബീഡിലിവ്സ് ഇറക്കുമതിചെയ്യിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു പറയാമോ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): For about 2 lakhs of rupees every year.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I Know whether the public can cultivate it?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: There is no objection to the public coming forward to cultivate it.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I know why the Department is doing it now?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: It is mainly for the purpose of demonstration that the Department is doing it now.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I know whether the locality they have now chosen is alone fit for cultivation of the beedi-leaf plant or whether other portions also are fit?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: There are other places in the State which are fit for its cultivation. The plant can be cultivated in places where the rainfall is low and the soil is of a loamy nature.

P. W. D. Advisory Board.

129. *MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: Will the Government be please to state:

(*a*) whether and when the P. W. D. Advisory Board met since 1-1-1116 to 1-5-1116; and

(*b*) whether they resolved upon any modification in the working of the roads budgeted for 1116?

MR. P. J. THOMAS (*Deputy Chief Engineer*): (*a*) Yes. 7th and 8th Thulam 1116.

(*b*) No.

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